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• ROUTINE

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31 JULY 1968

COUNTRY: MEXICO

DOI: 30 JULY 1968

SUBJECT: MEXICO CITY SITREP

ACQ:

SOURCE:

1. FOLLOWING IS TYPICAL OF INCIDENTS OBSERVED DURING STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS BETWEEN 1200 AND 1800, 30 JULY 1968: AT INTERSECTION OF LONDRES AND DINAMARCA STREETS STUDENTS STOPPING CARS AND TAKING MONEY FROM OCCUPANTS; TWELVE STUDENTS ARRESTED AT LATIN AMERICAN BUILDING FOR DAMAGING PROPERTY; GROUP OF STUDENTS TEARING UP STREET-CAR TRACKS AT INTERSECTION OF CHAPULTEPEC AND BALDERAS; SIZEABLE FIST FIGHT UNDERWAY AT TORREON AND TEHUANTEPEC STREETS; TWO STUDENTS CARRYING 25 CALIBER PISTOLS ARRESTED AT PREPARATORY SCHOOL NUMBER

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FIVE; STUDENTS BURNING SEVERAL CARS AND TWO BUSES AT INTERSECTION OF GENERAL PRIM AND BUCARELI; TWO BUSES OVERTURNED AT INTERSECTION OF ABRAHAM GONZALEZ AND GENERAL PRIM, WHERE POLICE CALLED FOR RE-ENFORCEMENTS; POLICE AND STUDENTS CLASHED AT HOTEL VERSAILLES, RE-ENFORCEMENTS CALLED. REPORTS SUCH AS THE ABOVE HAVE DIMINISHED STEADILY BETWEEN THE HOURS 1600-1800.

2. THE ENTRY OF THE ARMY INTO THE NATIONAL AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF MEXICO (UNAM) IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF 30 JULY, IN VIOLATION

OF UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY, HAS HAD THE EFFECT OF UNIFYING THE ENTIRE UNIVERSITY STUDENT BODY IN PROTEST. THOSE WHO HAVE NOT PARTICIPATED HERETOFORE IN DEMONSTRATIONS ARE NOW READY AND WILLING TO TAKE PART IN THEM. COMPLAINT: THE CHARGE THAT UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY HAS BEEN VIOLATED IS BASED, PRESUMABLY, ON THE FACT THAT PARATROOPERS FORCIBLY ENTERED SEVERAL PREPARATORY SCHOOLS, WHICH ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE UNAM STRUCTURE. THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTS THAT THE ARMY HAS ENTERED THE UNAM CAMPUS PROPER). BOTH THE DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL SECURITY SERVICE (DFS) AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF UNAM HAVE CONFIRMED THAT NEITHER THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT NOR THE UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT HAS ANY PLANS

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FOR DEALING WITH THE CURRENT PROBLEM OF STUDENT PROTESTS AND
AGITATION.

3. A MASS MEETING WAS HELD AT UNAM AT 1100 HOURS ON 30
JULY, WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE NATIONAL POLYTECHNIC IN-
STITUTE/IN ATTENDANCE. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PROPOSED MASS
MARCH BY UNAM/IPN STUDENTS WOULD TAKE PLACE AT 1700 HOURS ON
31 JULY. FOLLOWING THIS MEETING, THE STUDENTS MARCHED TO THE
OFFICE OF UNAM RECTOR, JAVIER BARROS SIERRA, WHO APPEARED RE-
FORE THE STUDENTS AND PERSONALLY LOWERED "THE FLAG" TO HALF
MAST, AND STATED THAT HE WAS "WITH THE STUDENTS" INASMUCH AS
THE AUTONOMY OF THE UNIVERSITY HAD BEEN VIOLATED.
BARROS SIERRA INFORMED THE STUDENTS THAT THE UNIVERSITY WOULD
BE REOPENED ON 31 JULY.

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4. THE COMMUNIST YOUTH OF MEXICO (JCM) HAS CALLED A

"GENERAL ASSEMBLY" AT THE UNIVERSITY STADIUM TO BEGIN AT 1100 HOURS ON 30 JULY.

COMMENT:

MEETING WAS IN PROCESS AT THAT TIME. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT DUE TO SCATTERED HEAVY RAIN SHOWERS THROUGHOUT MEXICO CITY DURING THE AFTER-NOON THE SITE OF THE MEETING HAS BEEN CHANGED). ALL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS IN THE MEXICO CITY AREA HAVE BEEN ASKED TO ATTEND. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING IS TO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE STUDENTS TOWARD THE DEMANDS OF THE JCM RELATING TO THE CURRENT DEMONSTRATIONS. IN AN EFFORT TO COUNTERACT THE JCM INFLUENCE, STUDENTS OF THE UNAM SCHOOLS OF ENGINEERING, CHEMISTRY, MUSIC AND NURSING, PREPARATORY SCHOOLS NUMBERS FOUR AND EIGHT, AND PARTS OF THE SCHOOLS OF LAW AND SOCIAL STUDIES HAVE SCHEDULED A MEETING FOR 1900 HOURS ON 30 JULY AT WHICH THEY PLAN TO COUNSEL MODERATION.

5. COMMENT: AS OF 1800 HOURS, THERE ARE NO REPORTS OF PLANNED DEMONSTRATIONS FOR THE EVENING OF 30 JULY).

6. DISSEM: STATE ARMY NAVY AIR FBI CINCSO

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